Pipelining

Readings: 4.5-4.8

Example: Doing the laundry

Ann, Brian, Cathy, & Dave each have one load of clothes to wash, dry, and fold

Washer takes 30 minutes

Dryer takes 40 minutes

“Folder” takes 20 minutes

Sequential Laundry

Sequential laundry takes 6 hours for 4 loads

If they learned pipelining, how long would laundry take?
Pipelined Laundry: Start work ASAP

Pipelining Lessons

Pipelining doesn’t help latency of single task, it helps throughput of entire workload

Pipeline rate limited by slowest pipeline stage

Multiple tasks operating simultaneously using different resources

Potential speedup = Number pipe stages

Unbalanced lengths of pipe stages reduces speedup

Time to “fill” pipeline and time to “drain” it reduces speedup

Stall for Dependences
Pipelined Execution

Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IFetch</th>
<th>Dcd</th>
<th>Exec</th>
<th>Mem</th>
<th>WB</th>
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Program Flow

Now we just have to make it work

Single Cycle vs. Pipeline

Clk

Single Cycle Implementation:

Load  Store  Waste

Cycle 1 | Cycle 2 | Cycle 3 | Cycle 4 | Cycle 5

Clk

Pipeline Implementation:

Load  | Ifetch  | Reg  | Exec  | Mem  | Wr  |
Store  | Ifetch  | Reg  | Exec  | Mem  | Wr  |
R-type | Ifetch  | Reg  | Exec  | Mem  | Wr  |

Cycle 6 | Cycle 7 | Cycle 8 | Cycle 9 | Cycle 10
Why Pipeline?

Suppose we execute 100 instructions

Single Cycle Machine
45 ns/cycle \times 1\text{ CPI} \times 100\text{ inst} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}\text{ ns}

Ideal pipelined machine
10\text{ ns/cycle } \times (1\text{ CPI} \times 100\text{ inst} + 4\text{ cycle drain}) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}\text{ ns}

CPI for Pipelined Processors

Ideal pipelined machine
10\text{ ns/cycle } \times (1\text{ CPI} \times 100\text{ inst} + 4\text{ cycle drain}) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}\text{ ns}

CPI in pipelined processor is “issue rate”. Ignore fill/drain, ignore latency.

Example: A processor wastes 2 cycles after every branch, and 1 after every load, during which it cannot issue a new instruction. If a program has 10% branches and 30% loads, what is the CPI on this program?
Pipelined Datapath

Divide datapath into multiple pipeline stages

Pipelined Control

The Main Control generates the control signals during Reg/Dec
- Control signals for Exec (ALUOp, ALUSrcA, ...) are used 1 cycle later
- Control signals for Mem (MemWE, IorD, ...) are used 2 cycles later
- Control signals for Wr (Mem2Reg, RegWE, ...) are used 3 cycles later
Can pipelining get us into trouble?

Yes: **Pipeline Hazards**

- **structural hazards**: attempt to use the same resource two different ways at the same time
  - E.g., combined washer/dryer would be a structural hazard or folder busy doing something else (watching TV)
- **data hazards**: attempt to use item before it is ready
  - E.g., one sock of pair in dryer and one in washer; can’t fold until get sock from washer through dryer
  - instruction depends on result of prior instruction still in the pipeline
- **control hazards**: attempt to make decision before condition evaluated
  - E.g., washing football uniforms and need to get proper detergent level; need to see after dryer before next load in branch instructions

Can always resolve hazards by **waiting**

pipeline control must detect the hazard

take action (or delay action) to resolve hazards

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Pipelining the Load Instruction

The five independent functional units in the pipeline datapath are:

- Instruction Memory for the Ifetch stage
- Register File’s Read ports (bus A and busB) for the Reg/Dec stage
- ALU for the Exec stage
- Data Memory for the Mem stage
- Register File’s Write port (bus W) for the Wr stage
The Four Stages of R-type

Ifetch: Fetch the instruction from the Instruction Memory
Reg/Dec: Register Fetch and Instruction Decode
Exec: ALU operates on the two register operands
Wr: Write the ALU output back to the register file

Structural Hazard

Interaction between R-type and loads causes structural hazard on writeback
Important Observation

Each functional unit can only be used once per instruction.
Each functional unit must be used at the same stage for all instructions:

Load uses Register File’s Write Port during its 5th stage.

R-type uses Register File’s Write Port during its 4th stage.

Solution: Delay R-type’s register write by one cycle.

Now R-type instructions also use Reg File’s write port at Stage 5.
Mem stage is a NOOP stage: nothing is being done.

Pipelining the R-type Instruction

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The Four Stages of Store

Ifetch: Fetch the instruction from the Instruction Memory  
Reg/Dec: Register Fetch and Instruction Decode  
Exec: Calculate the memory address  
Mem: Write the data into the Data Memory  
Wr: NOOP

Compatible with Load & R-type instructions

The Stages of Branch

Ifetch: Fetch the instruction from the Instruction Memory  
Reg/Dec: Register Fetch and Instruction Decode, compute branch target  
Exec: Test condition & update the PC  
Mem: NOOP  
Wr: NOOP
Control Hazard

Branch updates the PC at the end of the Exec stage.

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Clock

R-type Ifetch Reg/Dec Exec Mem Wr

beq Ifetch Reg/Dec Exec Mem Wr

load Ifetch Reg/Dec Exec Mem Wr

R-type Ifetch Reg/Dec Exec Mem Wr

R-type Ifetch Reg/Dec Exec Mem Wr

Accelerate Branches

When can we compute branch target address?
When can we compute beq condition?
Control Hazard 2

Branch updates the PC at the end of the Reg/Dec stage.

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Solution #1: Stall

Delay loading next instruction, load no-op instead

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CPI if all other instructions take 1 cycle, and branches are 20% of instructions?
Solution #2: Branch Prediction

Guess all branches not taken, squash if wrong

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CPI if 50% of branches actually not taken, and branch frequency 20%?

Solution #3: Branch Delay Slot

Redefine branches: Instruction directly after branch always executed

Instruction after branch is the delay slot

Compiler/assembler fills the delay slot

```
add $t1, $t0, $t0  sub $t2, $t0, $t3
beq $t2, $t3, FOO  add $t1, $t0, $t0  beq $t1, $t3, FOO
beq $t1, $t3, FOO  add $t1, $t3, $t3
add $t1, $t0, $t0  add $t1, $t0, $t0  add $t1, $t0, $t0
add $t1, $t3, $t3
FOO:
add $t1, $t2, $t0
```
Data Hazards

Consider the following code:

```plaintext
add $t0, $t1, $t2
sub $t3, $t0, $t4
and $t5, $t0, $t7
or $t8, $t0, $s0
xor $s1, $t0, $s2
```

If reads see value after write during the same cycle?

Design Register File Carefully

What if reads see value after write during the same cycle?
Forwarding

Add logic to pass last two values from ALU output to ALU input(s) as needed

**Forward** the ALU output to later instructions

- add $t0, $t1, $t2
- sub $t3, $t0, $t4
- and $t5, $t0, $t7
- or $t8, $t0, $s0
- xor $s1, $t0, $s2

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Forwarding (cont.)

Requires values from last two ALU operations. Remember destination register for operation. Compare sources of current instruction to destinations of previous 2.
### Data Hazards on Loads

```
load $t0, 0($t1)
sub $t3, $t0, $t4
and $t5, $t0, $t7
or $t8, $t0, $s0
xor $s1, $t0, $s2
```

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### Data Hazards on Loads (cont.)

**Solution:**

- Use same forwarding hardware & register file for hazards 2+ cycles later
- Force compiler to not allow register reads within a cycle of load
  - Fill delay slot, or insert no-op.
Pipelined CPI, cycle time

CPI, assuming compiler can fill 50% of delay slots

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction Type</th>
<th>Type Cycles</th>
<th>Type Frequency</th>
<th>Cycles * Freq</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALU</td>
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<tr>
<td>Load</td>
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<td>Store</td>
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<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Branch</td>
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<td>20%</td>
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<td><strong>CPI:</strong></td>
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Pipelined: cycle time = 1ns.  Delay for 1M instr:

Single cycle: CPI = 1.0, cycle time = 4.5ns.  Delay for 1M instr: